15. A skateboard of claim 14 in which the wheel is substantially centered under the footpad when the footpad is approximately parallel to the ground.

16. A skateboard of claim 15 in which small changes in the tilt angle of the footpad produce little or no restoring force, thus requiring the rider to dynamically balance the skateboard.

17. A skateboard of claim 16 in which the wheel is mounted on the underside of the footpad.

18. A skateboard of claim 14 in which the footpad of each footboard is mounted within the circumference of the wheel, said wheel being supported by a large bore bearing or by several smaller wheels engaging a circular rail, resulting in an opening sufficiently large to accept the footpad and the front half of the rider's shoe.

19. A skateboard of claim 16 in which the strut is rigid in bending but allows torsional rotation, thus allowing the footboards to be tilted independently.

20. A skateboard of claim 19 in which said strut is a flexure.

21. A skateboard of claim 19 in which said strut has one or more swivel-joints allowing torsional rotation while resisting bending.

22. A skateboard of claim 19 in which the initial length of the strut can be adjusted to accommodate riders of various leg lengths.

23. A skateboard of claim 16 having at least one pair of detachable training wheels mounted to at least one of the footboards, said training wheels being aligned with their axes substantially parallel to the axis of said wheel of claim 16, said training wheels being spaced apart to prevent excessive tilting of the footboard thereby allowing a beginner to more quickly learn to self-propel the skateboard.

24. A skateboard of claim 16 in which the pivot joint of each footboard allows approximately +/- 45 degrees of steering travel.

25. A skateboard of claim 16 in which the footpad can tilt approximately +/- 30 degrees before contacting the ground.

26. A skateboard of claim 18 in which the strut is rigid in bending but allows torsional rotation, thus allowing the footboards to be tilted independently.